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Calling Young Wildlife Artists: 2012 Junior Duck Stamp Contest Deadline March 17, 2012

Utah is once again calling for entries as part of the Federal Junior Duck Stamp program. Young artists in Kindergarten through grade 12 are invited to submit original artwork depicting North American waterfowl to the 2012 Utah Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest. Entries must be postmarked by March 17, 2012.

Entries will be judged on both artistic merit and scientific accuracy with which specific waterfowl species are depicted. The contest serves a dual purpose, giving students a chance to use their artistic talents at the same time they learn about wildlife and conservation. The art competition is open to public, private and home-schooled Utah students.



In 2011, Brad Gray, age 12, of Ogden, Utah, won Best-of-Show for his rendition of a Ruddy Duck in colored pencil. Brad was the youngest Best-of-Show in Utah on record.

The Utah Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest will award first, second, third and honorable mention ribbons in four groups: grades K-3; 4-6; 7-9; and 10-12. The State Best-of-Show is selected from among the first-place winning designs. Winning artwork in all categories will be displayed at the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge. The Best-of-Show Utah winner advances to the National Junior Duck Stamp Design Contest and competes with other state winners.

The Federal Junior Duck Stamp Conservation and Design Program is an integrated art and science activity developed to teach environmental science and habitat conservation. Teachers who want to integrate these lessons into their coursework can find a curriculum guide for teaching conservation through the arts at www.fws.gov/juniorduck/EducationProgram.htm.

CONTACT:

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Mail entries to: Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge

2155 West Forest Street Brigham City Utah 84302

Competition guidelines, including dimension requirements and an entry form, can be downloaded from http://www.fws.gov/juniorduck/ or call Kathi Stopher at 435-734-6438. Entries must be postmarked by March 17, 2012.